



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**EVENT: Guilty Plea**

**Defendant: Walter John Bates and Albert Stephen Bates**

**FORMER DETROIT POLICE DETECTIVE FOUND GUILTY OF BANK ROBBERY**

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A federal jury in Detroit found Walter John Bates, of Southfield and Albert Stephen Bates, of Detroit, guilty in connection with federal bank robbery charges today. Walter Bates was convicted of conspiring to commit a series of bank robberies during the summer of 2002, and with committing a bank robbery on Oct. 4, 2002 in Oak Park, Michigan. His brother, Albert Bates, was also convicted of conspiring to commit a series of bank robberies as well as committing five individual bank robberies, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Albert Bates was acquitted of two additional charges of bank robbery.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Daniel D. Roberts, Special Agent in Charge, Detroit Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The jury deliberated for approximately two days before returning the guilty verdict, concluding a week and a half trial before United States District Court Judge Arthur J. Tarnow.

The evidence presented at trial established that Walter Bates, who at the time of the bank robberies was a member of the Detroit Police Dept. Homicide Squad, together, with his

brother Albert Bates and others, committed approximately 13 bank robberies during the period of July 30 through Oct 8, 2002.

“Bank robberies are a significant problem for this district because they instill fear in their victims and undermine confidence in the heart of our region's commercial banking activity. Unusual bank robbery crimes like this one -- which involved a trusted officer in our law enforcement community -- are particularly egregious. I applaud the work of the trial team which brought this case to a successful conclusion,” United States Attorney Murphy said.

Murphy commended the work of Assistant United States Attorneys Daniel Hurley and Peter Deegan, who tried the case, along with agents of the FBI, particularly Special Agent Michael Mangan, who worked many long hours on the investigation

A sentencing date for both defendants has been set for June 22, 2006.